

NEWS

From the Office of

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Mitzelfelt Continues Effort to Stop Job-Killing Climate Regulations

HESPERIA – San Bernardino County Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt today sent a letter to all cities and counties in Southern California urging them to support the California Jobs Initiative in a statewide effort to suspend AB 32, also known as the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

“If these greenhouse gas regulations are implemented, California will experience a significant setback to a struggling economic recovery,” said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who recently convinced the Board of Supervisors to support the measure and to call for the repeal or suspension of the law. “We will still pursue clean energy and green jobs, but we cannot afford to put ourselves at a devastating competitive disadvantage when the rest of the nation and the world are playing by a different set of rules.”

The initiative would suspend implementation of AB 32 until California’s unemployment rate drops to 5.5 percent for four consecutive quarters. When AB 32 was signed into law in 2006, the state unemployment rate was 4.8 percent. Today the state unemployment rate is 12.8 percent, with unemployment in San Bernardino County at 14.8 percent, and areas of the High Desert with more than 20 percent. In the past year, the state has lost approximately 600,000 jobs.

If enough signatures are gathered by August 6, the initiative would go to the voters November 2.

In January, Mitzelfelt, as a member of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District’s Governing Board, helped lead an effort that resulted in the air district sending a letter to the Governor and Legislature calling for the suspension of AB 32 implementation. Seven cities in San Bernardino County, plus the County of Riverside, have adopted similar resolutions.

“In my letter to the cities and counties, I have not only asked them to support the jobs initiative, but also to call on the Governor and the Legislature to use their authority to suspend or repeal AB 32. I encourage all elected leaders, business owners and all residents who are worried about their jobs and their futures to actively support the California Jobs Initiative and to let our state leaders know how damaging AB 32 will be to our economy,” Supervisor Mitzelfelt said. “If there is a groundswell, Sacramento will have to listen.”